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**CHESTER-LE-STREET
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT
172 FRONT STREET
CHESTER-LE-STREET**

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE YEAR 1966

J. L. SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

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MEMBERS OF HEALTH AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE, 1966

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CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Health Department,
172 Front Street,
Chester-Le-Street.

To the Chairman and Members of the Chester-le-Street Rural District Council.

7th October, 1967

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for 1966.

The highlight of the statistics is the great improvements in the Infantile Mortality Rate, which has fallen to the lowest level ever recorded in the district. The overall death rate showed a slight rise, whilst the birth rate fell a little.

Housing continued to improve, as is shown by the increased number rehoused from condemned property, and the number of improvement grants made.

Services for the aged continued to grow, and our thanks must be given to the voluntary helpers who maintained their enthusiasm through the year.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their continued help and support, and also the staff of the Department for their efforts and enthusiasm during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. L. SIDDLE,

Medical Officer of Health

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health—(Joint Appointment with U.D.C. and Durham C.C.).

J. L. Siddle, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspectors—

Charles W. Robson, M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.I., and Certificate in Meat Inspection of the R.S.I. (Southern Area).

Robert Reid McDougall, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., R.P., Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

Additional Public Health Inspector—

Hugh F. L. Davies, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods. Diploma of the R.S.H., for Smoke Inspectors.

Pupil Public Health Inspector—

Anthony Willis.

Clerical Staff—

Victor Moore.
Jean Milford

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA

	1931	1965	1966
Area (acres)	26,925	22,226	22,226
Population	52,991	44,310	45,090
Persons per Acre	1.97	1.99	2.01
Inhabited Houses	12,026	14,689	15,231
Rateable Value	£173,350	£1,426,700	£1,454,301
Penny Rate Product	£635	£5,510	£5,690

* Registrar General's mid-year estimate including members of the armed forces stationed in area.

The estimated population of the area showed a further increase. This can be accounted for by the additional number of houses in the district, which in its role as a residential area for Tyne and Wear, continued to grow.

In the industrial parts of the area further development continued.

Area

The area of the Rural District remains unchanged at 22,226 acres.

The density of the population for the year being 2.01 persons per acre.

Table 1.
BIRTH RATE, DEATH-RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1966.

Based on Registrar-General's Provisional Figures	Rate per 1,000 Home Population	Birth Rate	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Home Population									Rate per 1,000 Live Births (Registered)
				All Causes	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	Pneumonia	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	T.B. (All Forms)	Influenza	Coronary	Cancer of Lung	
England and Wales	17.7	15.4	11.7	0.00	0.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.08	2.39	0.56	19.0
Durham County	17.3	17.1	11.7	0.00	0.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.86	0.07	2.6	0.52	21.0
Cheter-le Street R.D.	17.1	8.8	11.0	0.00	1.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.06	2.43	0.51	13.4

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population for 1966 was 45,090.

The estimates for the past 10 years are given below :—

	<i>Reg. General's est. population</i>
1957	41,120
1958	41,240
1959	41,550
1960	41,890
1961	41,240
1962	41,980
1963	43,090
1964	43,590
1965	44,310
1966	45,090

figure given for the 1961 Census was 41,169

Births

There was a slight fall in the Birth Rate as compared with 1965. Total live births were 779 for 1965 and 820 for 1966.

Live Births :—

Legitimate :	392 male, 396 female	Total	788
Illegitimate :	15 male, 17 female	Total	32
		(3.9% of total births)	
		Total Births	820

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	17.1
Standardised Birth Rate per 1,000 population	16.7
Still births (5 female, 2 male). Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	8.8

Deaths

Table 2

The number of deaths during 1966 was 497, compared with 456 for 1965. The crude death rate being 11.0 for 1966, as compared with 10.3 for 1965.

CAUSE OF DEATH	All ages		AGE IN YEARS								75 & over
	M	F	5	15	25	35	45	55	65		
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	3	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	2	
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus	23	—	—	—	—	1	2	7	11	2	
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	7	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	1	
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	22	14	—	—	—	2	3	7	14	10	
Leukaemia, Aluekaemia	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	
Diabetes	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	24	47	—	—	—	1	1	9	18	42	
Coronary Disease, Angina	65	45	—	—	—	1	13	29	38	29	
Hypertension with Heart Disease	5	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	10	
Other Heart Disease	14	21	1	—	—	1	—	5	6	22	
Other Circulatory Disease	14	11	—	—	—	—	1	1	7	16	
Influenza	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	
Pneumonia	23	24	2	—	—	—	1	4	11	29	
Bronchitis	25	8	—	—	—	—	1	7	15	10	
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	0	
Congenital Malformations	2	2	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	9	21	6	—	1	1	2	6	5	9	
Motor Vehicle Accidents	6	2	—	1	1	—	1	1	2	2	
All Other Accidents	6	7	2	2	1	—	—	—	1	7	
Suicide	2	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	
Total All Causes	256	241	13	4	3	12	32	85	146	202	

Table 3

The following were the chief causes of death during the year.

	1965		1966	
	No. of deaths	% of total deaths	No. of deaths	% of total deaths
1. Diseases of heart and circulatory system	246	53.9	257	51.7
2. Respiratory diseases	53	11.6	85	17.1
3. Cancer	79	17.3	79	15.8
4. Violence (8 Road traffic deaths, 13 other vio- lent causes, 4 suicide)	16	3.5	25	5.0
5. Tuberculosis (all forms)	2	0.4	3	0.6

Chief Causes of Death

1. The main causes of death continued to be diseases of the heart and circulatory system. The proportion of deaths being the same as for the previous year, i.e., 51.7%. Again almost half of these deaths were due to coronary thrombosis.

2. Second most important main group has changed as compared with the previous year. In 1966 respiratory diseases were responsible for more deaths than cancer.

3. Of the 79 deaths from cancer 23 were due to lung cancer all being males.

4. Violent deaths showed a rise in winter ; the road traffic deaths being 8 as compared with 4 the previous year.

Infant Mortality

Deaths under 1 year of age numbered 11, as compared with 16 in 1965.

The Infantile Mortality Rate was 13.4 the rate for 1965 being 20.5.

This is the lowest rate ever recorded in the district, and demonstrates once again the continuation of the improvement which has been in evidence for many years.

	Infant Mortality	Perinatal	Neonatal	Still birth
1956	29	35.7	16.8	23.3
1957	38	52.8	27.2	30.8
1958	33	46.4	28.5	23.2
1959	37	53.7	25.5	31.9
1960	22	34.7	13.3	21.7
1961	23	33.9	13.1	27.0
1962	20.9	27.1	14.4	15.5
1963	22.6	49.0	18.6	30.9
1964	28.8	41.7	21.3	20.8
1965	20.5	39.0	20.5	18.8
1966	13.4	15.7	9.8	8.5

Infant Mortality Rate for a district : The number of deaths in that district of infants under 1 year of age, calculated per 1,000 live births.

Still Birth Rate : The number of still births expressed per 1,000 total births (live and still births).

Neonatal Mortality Rate : The number of deaths in infants under 4 weeks of age, expressed per 1,000 live births.

Perinatal Mortality Rate : The combined still births and deaths in the first week of life, expressed as a rate per 1,000 total births (live and still births).

Infant Death Analysis

Of the 11 infant deaths 8 took place before the age of 4 weeks. Of the 3 who died between 4 weeks and 1 year of birth, two were due to accidents.

Table 4

INFANT DEATHS ANALYSIS—1966.

Cause of Death	Under Week	1—2 Weeks	2—3 Weeks	3—4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformation	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Accidents	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Haemorrhage	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Prematurity	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Asphyxia	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Hyperthyrea	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Total	6	2	—	—	8	2	1	—	—	11

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(1) Laboratory Facilities

In June, 1956, the Public Health Laboratories were transferred to the New Institute of Pathology, which was built in the grounds of the General Hospital to house the hospital pathological laboratory, the Blood Transfusion Service, and the Public Health Laboratory. The Director is Dr. J. H. Hale.

(2) Local Health Authority Services

The Administrative County is divided up into areas. Chester-le-Street Urban and Rural Districts forming No. 4 Area. For each area a Health Sub-Committee has been appointed to exercise on behalf of the County Health Committee, certain functions relating to services under the National Health Services Act 1946.

All day-to-day administration of the County Service is carried out by County Headquarters. The Assistant County Medical Officer deputises for the County Medical Officer of Health at quarterly meetings of the Area Sub-Committee.

(a) Health Visitor Service

There are 6 Health Visitors employed by the County Council working in the Chester-le-Street Rural District. A survey of the work done by them is given below :—

Visits paid to :—

Maternity and Child Welfare	....	....	....	....	9,687
Tuberculosis	....	....	....	....	286
School Work	....	....	....	....	594
General Health	....	....	....	....	150
Mental Deficiency	....	....	....	....	302
Aged People	....	....	....	....	1,230

Summary :—

Ineffective Visits	....	....	....	....	1,010
Total number of Visits	....	....	....	....	13,259
Number of Effective Visits	....	....	....	....	12,249
Time (as days) spent on Visits (Routine, other and ineffective)	....	....	....	....	628
Average Daily number of Effective Visits per Health Visitor	....	....	....	....	20

Clinics, etc., Work :—

*Time (as days)
Spent :*

(a) at Maternal and Child Welfare Centre	....	....	470
(b) at Chest Clinics and contact sessions	....	....	21
(c) at School Head to Head Inspections	....	....	15
(d) at School Medical Inspections	....	....	19
(e) at Nursery Schools	....	....	2

(b) Clinics

In the Rural District during the year the County Council had 3 clinics which were utilised in connection with local health authority services in the district. In some cases the clinics held in the Urban District are more convenient for certain of the rural district inhabitants so that these have been included in the table shown.

Address of Centre	Sessions
Hexham Villa, Birtley Telephone No. 52.	Child Welfare Fridays weekly Birth Control Alternate Monday after- Post-Natal and noons Ante-Natal Vaccination and Immunisation Alternate Monday mornings Dental Clinic 1st and 3rd Friday after- noons 1-30—2-30. Ultra Violet Ray. Friday afternoons weekly.
Mains Farm House, West Lane, Chester-le-Street. Telephone No. 3286.	Child Welfare Tuesdays weekly. Ante-Natal Alternate Wednesday mornings. Birth Control Alternate Wednesday Post-Natal afternoons. Ultra Violet Ray. Monday afternoons weekly Health Visitor Clinics Alternate Thursdays. Health Education and Relaxation Classes Monday afternoon weekly.
Miners' Welfare Hall, West Pelton.	Health Visitor Alternate Wednesday Clinics mornings. Child Welfare Alternate Wednesdays.
Old Relief Office, Front Street, Sacriston.	Child Welfare Alternate Wednesdays.

(c) Welfare Foods

DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS

National Dried milk, orange juice, cod liver oil and vitamin tablets are distributed from centres in the area as shown

Address of Centre	Sessions
Hexham Villa, Birtley. Tel. No. 52	Alternate Mondays and Fridays weekly 10-0 a.m. to 12 noon and 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m.
Old Relief Office, Front Street Sacriston	Alternate Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1-30 to 3-30 p.m.
Miners' Welfare Hall, Perkinsville	Tuesday : 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m.
Miners' Welfare Hall, West Pelton	Wednesday : 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Post Office, Great Lumley	Every Day, 9-0 a.m. to 5-0 p.m.
Miners' Welfare Hall, Kibblesworth	3rd Wednesday every month : 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Chester-le-Street, Mains House West Lane	Tuesday & Friday all day.
Church Hall, Fatfield	Alternate Wednesdays 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

4. Welfare Foods Service

	National Dried Milk Tins	Cod Liver Oil Bottles	Vitamin Tablets Packets	Orange juice Bottles
Birtley	1,411	334	106	2,752
Fatfield	490	33	12	268
Great Lumley	1,734	125	67	1,009
Kibblesworth	26	—	5	34
Pelton	710	39	21	206
Sacriston	494	197	46	1,035
Totals	4,865	728	257	5,304

(d) Domiciliary Midwifery and Home Nursing Services

The following statements give details of the work done and the staff employed :—

HOME NURSING

STAFF	NEW CASES				VISITS PAID											
	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Maternal Complications	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Maternal Complications	Others	†Patients over 65 years	¶Visits to Patients over 65 years	†Patients under 5 years	¶Visits to patients under 5 years	¶Visits for injections only (all ages)
3 District Midwives.	451	181	—	51	1	13948	4948	—	2351	6	299	369	13371	25	239	10398
5 District Nurses																
2 District Nurses Midwives																
plus 2 Vacancies Dis. Mid.																
1 Vacancy for Dis. Nurse																

MIDWIFERY			
Midwifery Cases	Maternity Cases	Hospital Discharges	
212	21	238	

(f) *Maternity and Child Welfare*

Centres.	ANTE-NATALS		CHILDREN					
	No. on books	Attend-ances	No. on books			Attendances		
			Years of age			Years of age		
Birtley	11	41	0/1	1/2	2/5	0/1	1/2	2/5
Sacrison	—	—	244	223	294	2,305	661	379
West Pelton	21	50	109	103	172	959	270	249
			96	88	123	729	216	146

Centre.	BIRTH CONTROL		POST-NATAL		ULTRA-VIOLET RAY	
	No. on books	Attend-ances	No. on books	Attend-ances	No. on books	Attend-ances
Birtley....	32	85	4	4	15	71

(e) *Ambulance Service including Chester-le-Street U.D.C.)*

The Chester-le-Street Rural District Council is served principally by the ambulance depot situated at Osborne Road, Chester-le-Street.

This Depot has an establishment of 1 Depot Superintendent, 4 Senior drivers, 12 drivers with 7 vehicles—four of them are dual purpose.

There is a 24 hour coverage from this Depot, but in case of emergency, a service is supplied from other Depots. Overall control is exercised by Central Control at Durham, whereby a system of direct telephone lines and radio, close supervision is kept of vehicles operating in all parts of the county, thus enabling any area to be reinforced as necessary.

All requests for ambulance transport in the area should be made to Central Control at Durham where a 24 hour service is maintained. Telephone No. Durham 4488.

The following table shows the work undertaken by the Chester-le-Street depot during the year, but it should be noted that these figures will include patients from areas other than the Rural District and that the conveyance of patients residing in the rural district is not restricted to the Chester-le-Street Depot, but may be undertaken by vehicles from other depots passing through the area.

No. of Journeys	Patients carried		Total	Mileage
	Stretcher	Sitting		
5,328	1,838	19,239	21,077	111,452

(f) Domestic Help

Domestic Helps are provided by the County Council where necessary in cases of sickness, childbirth, infirmity or other household emergencies.

Domestic Help cases during 1966

Cases attended 1-1-66	....	....	....	....	....	357
New cases during year	....	....	....	....	....	178
Cases terminated	....	....	....	....	....	162
Cases attended on 21-12-66	....	....	....	....	....	373
Number of Home Helps employed 31-12-66	....	....	....	....	....	208

Number of cases provided during year :

(a) Maternity (including expectant mothers)	....	....	....	....	....	2
(b) Tuberculosis	....	....	....	....	....	4
(c) Chronic sick (including aged and infirm)	....	....	....	....	....	516
(d) Others	....	....	....	....	....	13

(g) Prevention of Illness Care and Aftercare

Under this section of the National Health Service Act the Durham County Council supply nursing requisites on loan to those needing them. A fee is charged, the assessment of which depends on income and the type of article borrowed.

(h) School Health Service

The School Health Service is run by the Durham County Council from the headquarters in Durham City.

The clinic for the bulk of Chester-le-Street Rural District school children is in Birtley. The clinic is open daily and is attended on Monday and Wednesday by a School Medical Officer.

Routine medical inspections of children are carried out in the schools by a School Medical Officer.

(3) Hospital Services

The population of the district is in the main dealt with by the Durham Group of Hospitals.

None of the hospitals is sited in the Rural District but the General Hospital and Infectious Diseases Hospital are in the adjoining Urban District of Chester-le-Street.

(4) Executive Council Service

The executive council for the County of Durham is responsible for the administration and general management of the Family Practitioner Services in the District.

The Practitioner Services include the Family Doctor Service, the Dental Service, the Eye Service and the Pharmaceutical Service, all of which provide the patient with the individual medical attention that he needs.

(5) Health Education

Health Education is a matter of growing importance, and is probably best carried out on a national basis—i.e., T.V., radio etc. Nevertheless, the Department does its share of health education mainly by personal interviews, when members of the staff meet the public.

As has been the custom in the past, posters and leaflets have been distributed, in support of National Campaigns, and the booklet 'Better Health' has continued to be issued.

National Assistance Act, 1948

It was necessary in one case to obtain a Magistrate's Order to move an extremely sick old man to hospital. He had refused repeatedly to go voluntarily.

Meals on Wheels

The service continued to expand during the year with two vans and drivers. Helpers were provided by various voluntary organisations

During the year 11,443 meals were delivered to aged persons in their homes.

Luncheons for the Aged

The clubs in the district have proved a success and have continued to thrive. There was one addition during the year, and this was at Pelton where the Club started in the Communal room.

There were running during the year Clubs at Birtley, Barley Mow, Bournmoor, Eighton Banks, Little Lumley, Nettlesworth, Sacriston, Walldridge, Edmonsley, Kibblesworth and Pelton.

Three cooks are employed in the kitchens at Birtley, Sacriston and Kibblesworth, whilst meals for the other clubs are obtained from various sources, and taken by the Meals on Wheels vans to the Clubs.

In this regard thanks must be given to those firms who have allowed canteens to supply meals, and to the Durham County Council for allowing school kitchens to be used.

In all 17,472 meals were served in the various clubs.

Voluntary Helpers

The number of voluntary helpers involved in the Council's Meals Service for the Elderly has never been really known until the figure was required by the Chairman of the Council, when he wished to make a token Xmas Gift to each of them.

The number involved was then found to be 235.

When one realises that this is only one form of voluntary service it can be seen what a large part voluntary work plays in the life of the community.

Chiropody for the Aged

The schemes in the various parts of the district have continued throughout the year with some changes in place of work, etc.

These schemes are run by voluntary organisations, with the aid of a grant from Durham County Council.

No charge is now made to the old person having treatment.

Scrapmetal Dealers Act, 1964

There were registered during the year 29 Scrap Metal Dealers.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

I. Water

Water is supplied to the district by three water undertakings : Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co., Sunderland and South Shields and Durham County Water Board.

Regular sampling of the supplies by the Public Health Inspectors gave the following results :—

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Ministry of Health's recommendation	50+%	80+%	100%	0
Samples Durham County Water Board	25 (96%)	1 (100%)		
Sample other under- takings	45 (97%)	1 (100%)	—	—

In each case where a sample did not come into Class 1, any action necessary was taken, and in all cases subsequent samples were found to be satisfactory.

Chemical Analysis

One sample was sent for chemical analysis following complaints.

The report indicated that the water was pure and wholesome, and that it was suitable for drinking and domestic use.

3. Public Cleansing

The service has continued satisfactorily during 1966.

4. Inspection of the Area by Public Health Inspectors

Again nuisances under the Public Health Act have been largely abated by persuasion, it being necessary to serve one formal notice; 41 informal notices were served.

5. Petroleum Consolidated Act, 1928

The Public Health Inspectors are the responsible figures in connection with this Act.

Forty-eight licenses were issued during the year for the storage of 107,564 gallons of petrol. One licence was issued for the storage of 1,470 tons of calcium carbide. Two licences have been issued for 56 gallons of naphtha.

INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Table 5

General Summary of Public Health Inspectors.

	No. of Inspections	No. of Informal Notices Served	No. of Statutory Notices Served	Defects Remedied after Notice	Legal Proceedings & General Remarks
Housing	1,450	41	3	138	
Drainage	736	—	—	—	
Water Supply	52	—	—	—	
Factories	760	4	—	4	
Tents and Vans, etc.	132	—	—	—	
Food Premises	3,142	—	—	—	
Food Inspections	2,103	—	—	—	
Keeping of Animals	101	1	—	1	
Offensive Accumulations	8	—	—	—	
Clean Air Act	38	2	—	2	
Rodent Control, etc.	968	—	—	—	
Infestations	120	—	—	—	
Infectious Disease and Poisoning	142	—	—	—	
Food Vehicles and Stalls	65	—	—	—	
Pet Animals Act	32	—	—	—	
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	155	—	—	—	
Improvement Grants	1,128	—	—	—	
TOTALS	11,132	48	3	145	

Summary of Works carried out

Table 6

Defective	roof	19
„	yard surface	2
„	doors	5
„	fireplace	5
„	floors	3
„	walls	14
„	ceiling plaster	5
„	window frames	4
„	eaves, gutters, etc.	14
„	drains	12
„	W.C.	9
„	kitchen range	1
„	Waste water Pipe	8
„	chimney stacks	8
„	pointing	7
„	wallplaster	6
„	window cords	4
Dampness		11
Water supply		1

Table 7

6. Rats & Mice (Prevention and Damage by Pests Act 1949)

	Local Auth'ty	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	All Other (inc. B'ness P'mses	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	Agri- cul- tural
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
I.					
Number of Properties in District	105	15,231	1,108	16,444	176
II.					
(a) Total number of proper- ties (including nearby prem- ises) inspected following notification	—	—	—	390	14
(b) Number Infested by					
(i) Rats	—	—	—	269	14
(ii) Mice	—	—	—	121	—
III.					
(a) Total number of proper- ties inspected for rats and/ or mice for reasons other than notification	—	—	—	70	10
(b) Number infested by					
(i) Rats	—	—	—	64	10
(ii) Mice	—	—	—	6	—

The general condition of the area is reasonably satisfactory.

Leaflets illustrating methods for householders, and detailing the provisions of the Act, together with the Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks Regulations 1950. are available from the Health Department.

7. Swimming Baths and Pools

There are two Public Swimming Baths in the District— Lambton Baths and Birtley—the latter being uncovered.

Both use mains water and have filtration and chlorination plants.

Seven samples were taken at the baths ; 7 satisfactory.

8. Disinfection, Eradication of Bed Bugs, Flies, Red Mite, etc.

Forty treatments were carried out during the year.

9. Atmospheric Pollution

There were no major developments in this field during the year, although the possibility of a Smoke Control Area at Eighton Banks was considered.

Action regarding individual premises was taken by the Public Health Inspectors as required.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspec- tions	Written notice	Occu- piers prose- cuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	15	152	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Authority	66	357	4	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	8	106	—	—
TOTAL	89	615	4	—

II. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 contains provisions, some of which came into force in 1964, and others become operative later.

The tables below indicate the premises and personnel affected and the extent to which it has been possible for the Public Health Inspectors, who have been designated as the Officers under the Act to carry out inspections during 1966.

TABLE A—

Offices	42
Wholesale Shops, etc.	7
Retail Shosp	202
Catering Establishments	42
Fuel Storage Depots	1
Total	<u>294</u>

TABLE B—

Number of visits of Inspectors to registered premises	155
---	-----

TABLE C—(Persons Employed)—

Offices	1,496
Retail Shops	587
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	180
Catering Establishments open to the Public	229
Fuel Storage Depots	2
Canteens	33
Total	<u>2,527</u>

SECTION D.

HOUSING

Housing statistics for the year are given below; firstly showing action taken during the year with regard to existing properties, secondly figures for completion of new houses, and lastly allocation of houses.

Housing Statistics

III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

A—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

- | | |
|--|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses-in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 41 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after serving formal notices | 1 |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners | — |

B—Proceedings under section 16 and 17 of the Housing Act 1957 :—

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders made | 136 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in respect of pursuance of Demolition Orders | 119 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which a Closing Order was made | 10 |

New Houses and Re-lets

Building of Council houses commenced in 1947 after the War, and the following is the progress :

Table 8

	1947/1957											Total
	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966			
New Permanent Houses (including Flats)	90	32	38	102	266	146	55	128	352			3,369
Temporary Houses	101	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			101
Re-lets	68	104	112	70	195	205	205	200	256			2,323
	3,169	158	136	150	172	461	351	328	608			5,793

Table 8

Allocation of Houses during the Year List

A. Direct Overcrowding	92
Al Lacking Amenities	3
B. Length of time married and living in	72
C. Dangerous property	—
M.O.H. recommendation	24
Homeless of Eviction	4
Condemned Property	164
Aged Persons' list	149
Single persons' list	7
Council resolutions	17
Key workers	45
	577

In addition to the above there were 83 transfers and 47 exchanges granted, involving 100 families, largely relieving overcrowding, on health grounds, economic reasons, and to place people nearer to work.

The figures showing the allocation of houses during the year have been supplied by the Housing Manager.

New Houses in the District

During the year there were 352 new Council Houses completed in the district.

Private houses completed in the district numbered 95

Rehousing from Condemned Property

There were 164 families rehoused from condemned property during 1966. In 1965 the number was 50

The figures since 1954 are given below, showing a total of 1,130 rehoused by the council from condemned property.

1954	12
1955	36
1956	57
1957	228
1958	95
1959	5
1960	3
1961	96
1962	195
1963	120
1964	69
1965	50
1966	164
Total for 13 years	1,130

Condemnation of Unfit Houses

The total number of houses condemned during the year was as under :—

Individual unfit 136

Figures for the past Thirteen years are given below :—

Year	Number of individual houses condemned
1954	17
1955	50
1956	120
1957	211
1958	30
1959	106
1960	86
1961	210
1962	63
1963	66
1964	64
1965	114
1966	136

1,273

147 Clearance Areas

(1959, 1962 and 1963)

Total 1,420

Improvements Grant

Total grants during 1966 numbered 188 as compared with 222 in 1965.

Grants agreed since the scheme started are as follows :—

	1956-59	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	Total
Discretionary Grants	64	7	30	70	64	79	94	104	512
Standard Grants	70	113	96	98	87	110	128	84	786
	<u>134</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>126</u>	<u>168</u>	<u>151</u>	<u>189</u>	<u>222</u>	<u>188</u>	<u>1298</u>

The 1961 census showed that in the District 3,582 houses were without a fixed bath. Since the Census, 694 persons have been rehoused by the Council from condemned property. In addition, a number of families have left condemned property and found alternative accommodation themselves. There have been 1,048 houses improved since 1961, so that the 1961 Census figure for houses without baths had, by the end of 1966 been halved.

The number of N.C.B. houses lacking amenities showed no improvement as compared with the figure for the previous year.

Medical Priority Rehousing

Cases investigated claiming medical priority for rehousing numbered 217.

The results of the investigations were as follows :—

	Grounds for claiming priority T.B. Other Diseases
Number recommended for Re-housing to the Housing Committee	— 81
Number granted priority rehousing or passed to Local Committees for consideration	— 79

Caravans

Number of licensed residential caravan sites : Six.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk

On the register at 31st December, 1965—

(a) Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949	
Dairies (not dairy farms)	2

The Licensing Authority for designated milk is now the County Council. Samples are taken by the County Inspectors for testing to see if the milk conforms to the necessary standard.

Ice Cream

Premises registered for Ice Cream and Storage : 165.

Sampling of ice cream during the year produced the following results :—

Grade 1	45
Grade 2	8
Grade 3	1
Grade 4	—

These samples were almost all pre-wrapped ice cream, manufactured outside the district.

Food Premises

There are 295 food premises in the district, classified as under :

Number of Other Food Premises in the Area

Restaurants and Canteens	11
Cafes and Snack Bars	3

Shops

Butchers	.....	17
General Dealers /Grocers	.....	148
Greengrocers	.....	6
Confectionery	.....	26
Wet Fish	.....	3
Fried Fish	.....	28
Licensed Premises (Hotels and Bars, including Work- mens' Club)	.....	67

295

Premises manufacturing Sausages, Potted Meat and Preserved Foods number 53.

(1). Education of Food Handlers

Efforts continued through the year to persuade managers of food premises to send their staff for a suitable course of instruction in hygiene Food Handling.

Durham Technical College arrange courses at the College and also locally.

(2). Analysis of Food

Samples continued to be sent to the Public Health Laboratory or the Public Analyst as required. In one case information regarding unfit tinned meat was passed to the Ministry of Health for action.

The table below gives details of the animals killed in the district, and of the meat condemned as unfit for human consumption.

MEAT INSPECTION

Number of Licensed slaughterhouses	.....	.....	1
Number licensed slaughtermen	.....	.....	3

Only one slaughterhouse now operates in the district. There were 779 animals slaughtered here during the year, and all carcases were inspected. Although the Council may now make a charge for these inspections it was decided by the Council not to do so.

Table 9

Carcases and Offal and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs Horses	
No. killed (if known)	137	37	—	417	188	—
No. inspected	137	37	—	417	188	—
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :—</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	9	20	—	—	2	—
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysti- cerci	6.5	54.0	—	—	1.0	—

Tuberculosis only—

Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—

The following meat and other foods were condemned and dealt with in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Food :—

	lbs.	oz.
Bovine Liver	322	8
Pork	388	0
Lamb	112	0
Rabbit	11	0
Chicken	73	0
	906	8

Total : 8 cwts., 10 lbs. 8 oz.

Other foods :—

Tinned Tomatoes	442	12
Tinned Meat	2961	0
Tinned Vegetables	346	8
Tinned fruit	3070	4
Tinned Milk	536	0
Tinned fish	150	4
Tinned soup	117	0
Tinned rice	11	0
Cereal	10	8
Bacon	980	0
	8,265	4

Total : 3 tons 7 cwts 1 lb. 4 oz.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Infectious diseases notifications fell to 302 as compared with 788 in 1965. The big change was, as is to be expected, due to measles notifications.

Scarlet Fever

10 cases were notified during the year. This shows a big reduction from the figure of 29 for 1965.

Diphtheria

For the eleventh successive year there were no notifications.

Immunisations against Diphtheria

Most of the children protected against diphtheria receive the combined vaccine for diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, and a few the vaccine which includes in addition to these poliomyelitis vaccine.

The figures for diphtheria immunisation during the year were as follows :—

0—5 years	.....	.....	.....	660
Over 5 years	.....	.....	.....	233
			Total	893
Boosters	.....	.....	.....	656

The number of infants immunised stated as a percentage of live births was 80%.

Poliomyelitis

There were no cases of poliomyelitis notified during the year.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Most of the vaccination against poliomyelitis is now carried out by the oral vaccine. Parents who in the past were loath to subject the to 'needle' are now quite happy that their child should have a 'sugar lump'.

Measles

Notifications during 1966 numbered 245 as compared with 709 in 1965.

Notification of Measles										
	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
No. of Cases	868	10	566	31	681	27	478	127	709	245

Whooping Cough

Twenty notifications were received in 1966, as compared with 8 in 1965.

Figures for the past 10 years are as follows :—

Notification of Whooping Cough										
	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
No. of Cases	160	91	53	64	31	13	16	18	8	20

Whooping Cough Immunisation

There were 678 courses of treatment given during the year. This figure constitutes 80% of children born.

Smallpox Vaccination

During the year vaccination against smallpox in the district was as follows :—

Primary	.....	386
Re-vaccination	.....	84

Sonne Dysentery

There were during July outbreaks of Sonne Dysentery in two schools in the District. Fortunately the disease was limited to the two localities, and did not become general throughout the district.

Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)

Notifications and Deaths due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
No. of										
Cases	24	41	22	26	10	25	13	10	10	—
Deaths	6	5	5	3	3	2	3	4	2	3

CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT

B.C.G. Vaccination

B.C.G.

Given below are the figures for the last scheme carried out in the district.

Schoolchildren

This has now been carried out in Birtley since 1955—the twelfth year. In the rest of the district 1966 was the eleventh year.

School				Number Tuberculin Tested	Number Positive	Per cent Positive	Number Vaccinated
Birtley R.C. Senior School	....			18	—	77.7	14
Birtley George Street Mod.	....			32	5	15.6	23
Birtley East Modern	....	....		86	24	27.9	56
Sacriston Modern	....	....		32	4	12.5	25
Fencehouses Modern	....	....		46	10	21.8	36
Pelton Roseberry Modern	....			79	14	17.7	58
Pelton Modern	....	....		60	12	20.0	41
Birtley South Modern	....	....		105	30	28.5	69
TOTALS				458	99	21.5	322

Table 10

Age at Death	1965	%
Under 1 year	11	2.22
1—4 years	2	0.40
5—14 years	—	—
15—24 years	4	0.80
25—34 years	3	0.60
35—44 years	12	2.41
45—54 years	32	6.44
55—64 years	85	17.10
65—74 years	146	29.39
75 and upwards	202	40.64
Total	600	100.0—

Table 11

**STATISTICS OF THE PARISHES FORMING THE
CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT**

	Pop. 1961 Census	Acreage (acres)	Total No. of Inhabited Houses	No. of Council Houses	Deaths
Biddick South	29	348	10	—	—
Birtley	10880	1429	4040	2186	158
Bournmoor	1818	513	928	312	25
Edmondsley	1239	2099	394	230	16
Harraton	3656	2669	1397	377	37
Lambton	75	697	98	—	3
Lamesley	4206	5679	1347	603	29
Lumley Great	2426	1642	889	507	20
Lumley Little	1183	875	374	10	19
Ouston	1181	641	883	271	16
Pelton	5880	926	2108	984	83
Plawsworth	1570	1248	459	248	14
Sacriston	4871	910	1576	638	60
Urpeth	1694	1825	556	113	14
Waldridge	552	725	172	—	3
	41169	22226	15231	6479	497

Table 12

Infectious disease notifications since 1957

Disease	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	2	3	2	43	2	1
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	24	57	18	9	5	3	10	51	39	10
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	2	—
Meningococcal Infection	2	3	1	4	1	1	—	—	3	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	66	39	34	35	32	15	36	12	4	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	3	2	1	—	2	3	—	1
Erysipelas	2	2	1	—	—	1	3	2	—	—
Optalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	19	12	6	—	2	6	38	8	10	7
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	24	41	22	26	10	25	13	10	8	16
Non-pulmonary	5	3	2	5	2	1	3	2	2	1
Measles	808	10	566	31	681	27	478	127	709	245
Whooping Cough	100	91	53	64	31	13	16	18	8	20
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
†Diagnosis not confirmed	30	17	6	3	5	5	11	7	1	1

† Due to Quarterly Infectious Return

Table 13

ANNUAL REPORT

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1966

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	AT AGES—YEARS							TOWNSHIPS														Total No. Notified	Removed to Hospital														
	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 to 74	75 and Up.	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Biddick South			Birtley	Bournmoor	Edmondsley	Harraton	Lambton	Lamesley	Lumley Great	Lumley Little	Ouston	Pelton	Plawsworth	Sacrison	Urpeth	Waldrige
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
“ Non-Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diagnosis not Confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	15	1168	99	5	8	5	2	...	3	6	14	20	55	56	47	36	12	10	20	23	...	35	68	14	19	16	24	9	12	...	58	5	21	2	8	302	2

Table 14

CANCER DEATHS 1966 (AGE GROUPS AND SITES).

Age Group	Buccal Cavity (A44)		Stomach (A46)		Intestines except Rectum (A47)		Rectum (A48)		Trachea Lungs ETL (A50)		Breast (A51)	Uterus (A52 & 53)		Prostate (A54)	All Others		Leukaemia	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	F	F	F	M	M	M	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-54	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65-74	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
75 & up	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2	1	4	3	4	2	4	—	23	—	7	4	2	10	11	1	1	1

N.B.—Group Nos. refer to intermediate list of 150 causes International Classification)

Males 50 Females 79

Table 15

The following table gives the vital statistics of the district for 1966 and previous years :

Year	Estimated Resident Population Mid-Year	Births		Deaths		Infant Mortality Rate †	Maternal Mortality Rate ‡
		No.	Crude Rate*	No.	Crude Rate*		
1957	41,120	661	16.1	467	11.4	38	1.46
1958	41,240	631	15.3	480	11.6	33	0.00
1959	41,550	666	16.0	444	10.7	38	0.00
1960	41,890	676	16.1	448	10.7	22	0.00
1961	41,240	687	16.6	453	10.9	23	0.00
1962	41,980	763	18.1	450	10.7	21	0.00
1963	43,090	751	17.1	502	11.7	23	0.00
1964	43,590	798	18.3	437	10.0	28	0.00
1965	44,310	779	17.6	456	10.3	21	0.00
1966	45,090	820	17.1	497	11.0	13	0.00

* Per 1,000 population. (total)

† Per 1000 live births. (registered).

‡ Per 1,000 (live and still) births. (registered).

Table showing changes in certain Vital Statistics over a period

Table 16.

	1896	1921	1966
Population	58,000	71,580	45,090
Births	2,157	2,298	820
Crude Birth Rate	38.09	31.82	17.1
Deaths	1,083	851	497
Crude Death Rate	19.00	13.03	11.0
Infant Deaths	394	270	11
Infant Mortality Rate	128	117	13
Deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases	212	126	1
Scarlet Fever Cases	553	378	10
Typhoid Fever Cases	108	6	—
Diphtheria Cases	57	130	—

Table 17

New cases and mortality from Tuberculosis during 1966 :—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
25—34	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—44	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—54	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
65—74	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
75 & over	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	12	5	—	—	2	1	—	—

Table 18

Notifications and deaths occurring in the Rural District during the past five years :

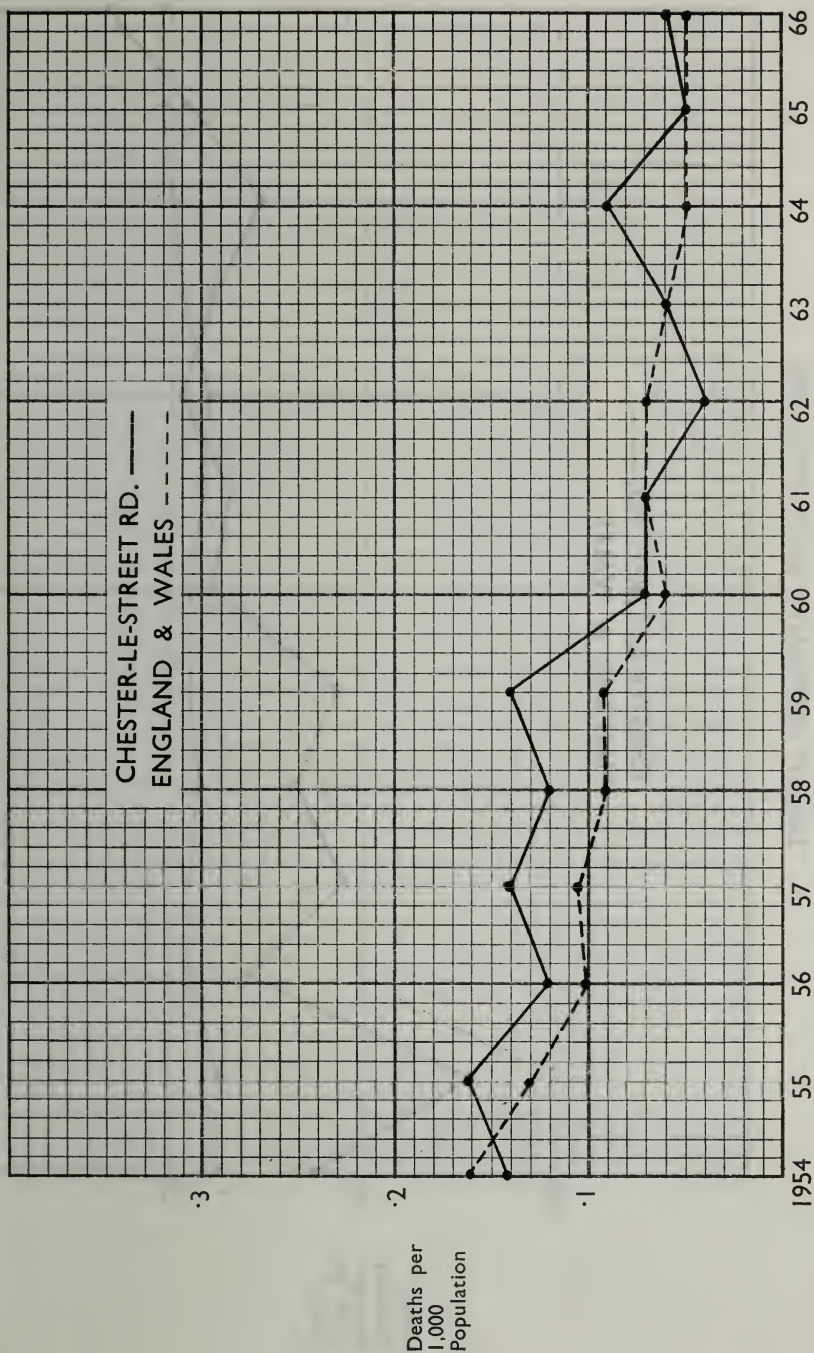
Year	Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Non-Pulmonary	
	Notifications	Deaths	Notifications	Deaths
1962	25	2	1	—
1963	13	3	3	—
1964	10	4	2	—
1965	8	2	2	—
1966	17	3	—	—

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register were as follows :

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
December 31st, 1962	114	87	15	22	238
December 31st, 1963	123	89	17	24	253
December 31st, 1964	118	83	16	23	240
December 31st, 1965	119	83	17	25	244
December 31st, 1966	126	86	18	24	254

* 5.6 per 1,000 civilian population

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE—1954—1966



INFANT MORTALITY RATE—1954—1966

